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PCT/EP2003/011697

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY



Translation

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2002DE435	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/011697	International filing date (day/month/year) 22 October 2003 (22.10.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 30 October 2002 (30.10.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A01N 25/30		
Applicant CLARIANT GMBH et al.		

- This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
- This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - ☐ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:
 - ☐ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

- This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the report
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 19 May 2004 (19.05.2004)	Date of completion of this report 26 July 2004 (26.07.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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International application No.

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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

- ☒ The international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages _____ 1-12 _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- pages _____ 1-15 _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the drawings:
- pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-15	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-15	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-15	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

None of the prior art documents cited in the international search report (ISR) discloses a composition containing one or more pesticides and a polyamine compound of formula (I).

The advantageous properties (page 6, lines 5-16 and page 12, first paragraph) of the alkoxyated (ethylene/propylene)-N-alkyl-polyamines of formula (I) as a surfactant for water-soluble pesticides, in particular glyphosate, also cannot be found in the search report citations:

DE 40 19 362 A1 (D1) and WO 02/43492 A1 (D4) disclose alkoxyated propylene-N-alkyldiamines. In contrast thereto, the polyamines used according to the invention have at least four amino groups and two long-chained alkyl groups at the terminal N.

JP 60 075 324 A (D2) discloses alkoxyated polyethylene polyamines without long-chained alkyl substituents. D2 also does not suggest a possible use with pesticides.

EP 417 896 A1 (D3) discloses alkoxyated polyethylene polyamines with, optionally, 1-3 C1-C4 alkyl substituents at the N atom, but does not provide an example of such a substitution. Furthermore, the polyamine surfactants do not have any propylene groups like the compounds used

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according to the invention and must be used with partially esterified polyalcohols such as sorbitan.

WO 96/32839 A2 (D5) discloses ether(mono)amine surfactants for glyphosate formulations.

The subject matter of claims 1 to 15 is therefore novel and involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)).

The invention is clearly industrially applicable (PCT Article 33(4)).